

Remarks

The Office Action dated May 28, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-10, 12-19, and 22-26 are pending in this application. Claims 11, 20, and 21 have been cancelled. Claims 1-26 are subject or restriction and/or election requirement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a one month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2004, for the above-identified patent application from June 28, 2004, through and including July 28, 2004. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$110.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

In response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2004, Applicants, with traverse, elect for prosecution in this application all claims that belong to Group IV, i.e., Claims 10, 12-19, and 22-26.

The requirement for election is traversed because the inventions set out by the claims in Groups I, II, III, and IV clearly are related. Applicants submit that a thorough search and examination of any Group would be relevant to the examination of the other Group and would not be a serious burden on the Examiner. Additionally, requirements for election are not mandatory under 35 U.S.C.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the energy absorbers of Group I (Claims 1-4), Group II (Claims 5-6), and Group III Claims (7-9) all comprise a thermoplastic structure that includes a plurality of sides and a plurality of web members and as such cannot have different classifications. Also, Applicants submit that contrary to the suggestion at page 3 of the Office

Action, Group IV claims are a combination and that Groups I, II, and III claims are subcombinations. Applicants further submit that the combination (Group IV) requires the particulars of the subcombinations (Group I, II, and III). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Also, Applicants, with traverse, elect Species E (Figure 6). Applicant submits that Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10, 12-19, and 22-25 read on Species B.

The requirement for election is traversed because Species A through E clearly are related. Also, Applicants respectfully submit that a thorough search and examination of Species E would be relevant to the examination of Species A-D, and would not be a serious burden on the examiner. Additionally, requirements for election are not mandatory under 35 U.S.C. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the election requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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